

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An intervertebral cage for treating degeneration of the spine and suitable for being interposed between two consecutive vertebrae, the cage comprising:

- a block $[(1)]$;
- at least one anchor member $[(2)]$ comprising a pivot $[(3)]$ defining a first axis of rotation $[(4)]$, and at least one blade $[(5)]$ secured to said pivot $[(3)]$ and occupying substantially a first plane $[(6)]$ making a non-zero angle α relative to said first axis $[(4)]$; and

- means for mounting the pivot $[(3)]$ to turn relative to said block $[(1)]$, said means comprising a hole ~~(10) made~~ in the block $[(1)]$ along a second axis ~~(11)~~ , a slot ~~(12) made~~ in the block substantially in a second plane ~~(13)~~ making an angle γ substantially equal to the angle α relative to the second axis ~~(11)~~ , the slot ~~(12) also being made in such a manner that, together with~~ and the hole ~~(10)~~ , ~~it has~~ having a common portion ~~(14)~~ suitable for containing the pivot $[(3)]$, and means ~~(15)~~ for associating the pivot $[(3)]$ to turn relative to the block $[(1)]$ when the pivot is in position in said common portion ~~(14)~~ and in such a manner that when, in said position, the pivot is

turned through a given amplitude relative to the block, the anchor member [(2)] is suitable for taking up at least a first position and a second position, the first position being that in which the blade [(5)] is fully contained within the slot (12), and the second position being that in which a portion (16) of the end of the blade emerges from said slot;

~~the cage being characterized by the fact that for~~

the pivot (3) ~~being constituted by~~ includes a second rotary shaft (20) having the first axis [(4)] as its axis, the means (15) for associating the pivot ~~in rotation with~~ to turn relative to the block comprises a second bearing (21) that is open towards [(the)] an opening (22) of said slot (12) situated in the surface of the block [(1)], said ~~open~~ second bearing being ~~made in the margin of~~ said common portion (14) ~~in such a manner~~ so as to be centered on said second axis (11), [(the)] diameters of the ~~open~~ second bearing (21) and of the second rotary shaft (20) being substantially equal, the ~~diameter~~ diameters of the second rotary shaft (20) and of the ~~open~~ second bearing (21) being greater than [(the)] a minimum ~~diametral dimension~~ diameter of the cross-section of the hole (10).

2. (currently amended) [(An)] The intervertebral cage according to claim 1, ~~characterized by the fact that~~ wherein the open second bearing (21) is constituted by two open cylindrical surfaces (23, 24) separated by an empty space (25) of width that

is not less than the maximum thickness of the blade ~~[[5]]~~ in its portion ~~(26)~~ that is secured to the pivot ~~[[3]]~~.

3. (currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The intervertebral cage according to claim 2, ~~characterized by the fact that~~ wherein the open second bearing ~~(21)~~ is a retention bearing.

4. (currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The intervertebral cage according to claim 3, ~~characterized by the fact that~~ wherein at least one of the two open cylindrical surfaces ~~(23, 24)~~ is defined over an angle greater than 180°.

5. (currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The intervertebral cage according to claim 1, ~~characterized by the fact that it includes~~ further comprising means ~~(30)~~ for turning said pivot ~~[[3]]~~ about said second axis ~~(11)~~ in such a manner that said anchor member ~~[[2]]~~ is suitable for taking up said first position and said second position.

6. (currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The intervertebral cage according to claim 5, ~~characterized by the fact that~~ wherein the means ~~(30)~~ for turning said pivot ~~[[3]]~~ about said second axis ~~(11)~~ comprise a socket ~~(31)~~ of polygonal cross-section made in the face ~~(32)~~ of the second rotary shaft ~~(20)~~ that faces the hole ~~(10)~~ when said second rotary shaft ~~(20)~~ is mounted to rotate in

the open second bearing ~~(21)~~, said socket ~~(31)~~ being centered substantially on said first axis ~~[(4)]~~ and being of cross-section smaller than that of said hole ~~(10)~~.

7. (currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The intervertebral cage according to claim 6, ~~characterized by the fact that it includes further comprising~~ an orifice ~~(40)~~ having tapping ~~(41)~~, said orifice being formed in the second rotary shaft ~~(20)~~ being centered on the first axis ~~[(4)]~~ and opening out into the end of said hollow recess ~~(31)~~, the diameter of said tapped orifice ~~(40)~~ being less than the cross-section of said socket ~~(31)~~, and means ~~(42)~~ for indexing the position of an ancillary relative to the block ~~[(1)]~~ formed in the face ~~(43)~~ of the block into which said hole ~~(10)~~ opens out.

8. (currently amended) An intervertebral cage for treating degeneration of the spine and suitable for being interposed between two consecutive vertebrae, the cage comprising:

- a block ~~[(1)]~~;
- at least one anchor member ~~[(2)]~~ comprising a pivot ~~[(3)]~~ defining a first axis of rotation ~~[(4)]~~, and at least one blade ~~[(5)]~~ secured to said pivot ~~[(3)]~~ and occupying substantially a first plane ~~[(6)]~~ making a non-zero angle α relative to said first axis ~~[(4)]~~; and

· means for mounting the pivot $[(3)]$ to turn relative to said block $[(1)]$, said means comprising a hole (10) made in the block $[(1)]$ along a second axis (11) , a slot (12) made in the block substantially in a second plane (13) making an angle γ substantially equal to the angle α relative to the second axis (11) , the slot (12) ~~also being made in such a manner that, together with~~ and the hole (10) , ~~it has~~ having a common portion (14) suitable for containing the pivot $[(3)]$, and means (15) for associating the pivot $[(3)]$ to turn relative to the block $[(1)]$ when the pivot is in position in said common portion (14) and in such a manner that when, in said position, the pivot is turned through a given amplitude relative to the block, the anchor member $[(2)]$ is suitable for taking up at least a first position and a second position, the first position being that in which the blade $[(5)]$ is fully contained within the slot (12) , and the second position being that in which a portion (16) of the end of the blade emerges from said slot;
~~characterized by the fact that, for~~

the pivot $[(3)]$ being constituted by a hollow first bearing (17) , the means (15) for associating the pivot (3) ~~in rotation with~~ to turn relative to the block $[(1)]$ comprise a first rotary shaft (18) mounted with rotary indexing means in said hollow first bearing (17) , and means (19) for mounting said first rotary shaft (18) to co-operate with said block $[(1)]$.

9. (new) An intervertebral cage for treating degeneration of the spine and configured to be interposed between two consecutive vertebrae, the cage comprising:

a block;

at least one anchor member comprising a pivot having a rotary shaft that rotates about a first axis of rotation;

at least one blade secured to said pivot and occupying substantially a first plane making a non-zero angle α relative to said first axis;

a common cavity portion in said block configured to contain the pivot;

a hole in the block having a second axis;

a slot in the block substantially in a second plane making an angle γ substantially equal to the angle α relative to the second axis, the slot and the hole being connected to each other at said common cavity portion, the at least one anchor member is configured to move between a first position and a second position, the first position being that in which the blade is fully contained within the slot, and the second position being that in which a portion of an end of the blade emerges from said slot; and

a bearing that is open towards an opening of said slot, said bearing being in said common cavity portion so as to be centered on said second axis, said bearing being configured to support the pivot so that the pivot turns relative to the block

when the pivot is in said common cavity portion, the pivot is configured to turn through a given amplitude relative to the block;

diameters of the bearing and of the rotary shaft being substantially equal, the diameters of the rotary shaft and of the bearing being greater than a minimum diameter of the cross-section of the hole.